

H0006018-0760(1100.1234101)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

(check one)       X   is attached hereto  
                       was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as  
Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_.  

(if applicable)

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
--------------------------	---------------	---------------------------------------

**Address all correspondence to KRIS T. FREDRICK at Customer Number 000128.**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole  
or First Inventor

Inventor's Signature Michael L. Rhodes Date: 1/5/04

Residence Richfield, Hennepin County

Citizenship US

Post Office Address 7526 - 5th Avenue S.  
Richfield, Minnesota 55423

Full Name of Second

Joint Inventor, If Any Brian C. Krafthefer

Inventor's Signature Brian C. Krafthefer Date: 1/5/04

Residence Stillwater, Washington County

Citizenship US

Post Office Address 1400 Norcrest Avenue N.  
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082

Full Name of Third

Joint Inventor, If Any Hongbin Ma

Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Falcon Heights, Ramsey County

Citizenship Peoples Republic of China

Post Office Address 1687 N. Fry St., Apt. 12  
Falcon Heights, Minnesota 55113

Full Name of Fourth

Joint Inventor, If Any David B. Kittelson

Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Minneapolis, Hennepin County

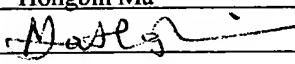
Citizenship US

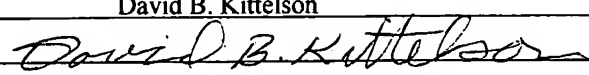
Post Office Address 4825 Queen Avenue S.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55410

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole  
or First Inventor Michael L. Rhodes  
Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence Richfield, Hennepin County  
Citizenship US  
Post Office Address 7526 - 5th Avenue S.  
Richfield, Minnesota 55423

Full Name of Second  
Joint Inventor, If Any Brian C. Krafthefer  
Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence Stillwater, Washington County  
Citizenship US  
Post Office Address 1400 Norcrest Avenue N.  
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082

Full Name of Third  
Joint Inventor, If Any Hongbin Ma  
Inventor's Signature  Date: 26 Jan. 2004  
Residence Falcon Heights, Ramsey County  
Citizenship Peoples Republic of China  
Post Office Address 1687 N. Fry St., Apt. 12  
Falcon Heights, Minnesota 55113

Full Name of Fourth  
Joint Inventor, If Any David B. Kittelson  
Inventor's Signature  Date: 26 Jan. 2004  
Residence Minneapolis, Hennepin County  
Citizenship US  
Post Office Address 4825 Queen Avenue S.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55410

\*Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56:

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) Each inventor named in the application;

(2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.